

THE CHEBOYGAN IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION.

Ever since its establishment the NORTHERN TRIBUNE has labored earnestly for the formation of an association centralizing all the persons and interests of the place into one common purpose, that of the improvement of Cheboygan. Its efforts in this respect have been crowned with success. In the local columns of this paper will be found an account of the formation of the society, under the name of "The Cheboygan Improvement Association," together with the plan of organization and articles of association. The specific objects of the association have been repeatedly mentioned in these columns and are sufficiently set forth in the constitution. The fact that such an association is formed and have the proper officers elected is not enough. To make it the success that it should be, to make it accomplish all that is hoped for it, for the benefit of the place and its people, will require the co-operation of every taxpayer in the place. Nor is it enough that they give the association the benefit of their membership, of the small amount of money that each member is asked to contribute to its support and to enhance its influence, but the association also needs the personal influence and assistance of every one. It is only through the personal efforts of every individual in furthering the objects of the association, that the greatest good can be accomplished. The inside work of the association is not its greatest work. In union there is strength. Let every member become interested in the objects for which this association is formed, and resolve to further them as far as it lies in his power, and it would surprise even themselves how soon Cheboygan would become known as a place of importance, by the whole country. It should be one of the objects of the life of every citizen of Cheboygan to improve the place. This can be done without interfering at all with the individual business. While he is helping the place he is helping himself, many times much more than he could by direct work.

The platform upon which the association asks the citizens of the county to come together and work for the common weal is an extremely liberal one, the only distinction being that he be a taxpayer. Upon such a platform all can join, and we might with propriety say that it is the duty of all to join, and we hope there will be few found who have not the requisite amount of public spirit to join in the great work to be inaugurated by the association. The membership fees and dues have been fixed at a very low figure, considering the magnitude and number of operations which will require the aid and encouragement of the association. It is within the reach of every man who is really interested in the growth of the place, and all the cost will come back to him within a very short time. It is a platform upon which all can stand, and see if our prediction is not true, that more will be accomplished in a year with strong united action, than in five years without co-operation.

INLAND NAVIGATION.

One of the first matters which should occupy the attention of the Cheboygan Improvement Association, is that of inland navigation. A. L. Smith, who has been doing by individuals, and the project is in a fair way to secure state aid to make the route navigable, yet there is much to do to make the route an assured success. There must be a line of fast boats put up on the route. As we hear it said, "that there will be no difficulty about boats; get the route opened and the boats will come. The investment will be a profitable one and there will be many to embrace the opportunity." It will not do to depend upon this. The risk is too great. Because a few of the people here who have made the subject a study, feel convinced that this is true, it cannot be expected that strangers will, with a casual glance on their part, without assistance or influence on ours, see the matter as we do. Then again the mere fact of having boats is not sufficient, they must be in the hands of the proper persons. That boats can be got upon the route as soon as completed we have no doubt, if the association take the matter in hand and act promptly. There is any quantity of capital in the country awaiting investment. What that capital wants to know, is the certainty with which it will receive returns. This information can be satisfactorily given, and it is the province of the association to find the proper parties to whom this information shall be given. In this there is no time to be lost. There are other matters connected with this scheme for inland improvement, that the influence of the association can be used advantageously. The appropriation by the state is not made yet, and the fact that doubtful things are many times uncertain is an indication that those interested in the work should not relax their labors until assurance is made doubly sure by the Board of Control granting aid sufficient to complete the work. When this is done the association may take up the next most important matter, for we hold that this is the most important project for the whole northern part of the state that has ever enlisted the aid of its residents. Its benefits will not only be felt in the north but in a proportional degree throughout the whole state.

In a Methodist church near Hartford, Conn., last Sunday evening, a young man named Curtis undertook to leave the meeting, when Elder Risley collared him and told him he couldn't go. Curtis struck him in the face, the boys shouted, the pastor left the pulpit and tried to quiet the disturbance. Finally Curtis was compelled to take a seat and a justice of the peace sent for. The pastor insisted upon an immediate trial, and tried in vain to clear the house for the purpose. So the trial was postponed. It was a queer performance. Attendees on that church must act like peace: "they must come; but when they come, they must come to stay."

THE BRIDGE QUESTION.

The bridge across the Cheboygan River on Third street is a disgrace to the village and county. We mentioned the necessity for a new bridge in our issue of two weeks ago, but not having at that time investigated the subject thoroughly, it was merely a casual mention. Not only is the bridge a disgrace but it is dangerous as well. Just so sure as that bridge stands and traffic is allowed over it, just so sure will there be in the future injury to person or property, with death perhaps as a result. It is only a question of time, and not very far in the future either. Suppose it be death, would not the verdict be murder against the county, and the inhabitants thereof? Who is there who has not raised up his voice against this danger, who could truthfully say "I am innocent." A new bridge would cost a great deal of money. What is money in comparison to a man's life or injury to his person. If the injury that may come any day from this bridge be entirely against a man's property, the county can compensate that, for money is equivalent to property, but if the injury be against a man's person or his life be a forfeit to the heedlessness, nay selfishness of the people in allowing such a bridge to be used, who can say that any money would compensate such a loss? Would money be any inducement, or even a compensation, for a young man to go through the balance of his life a cripple? Would money compensate a wife for the death of her husband? No. If it was we would not raise our voice against this great danger. We would willingly permit the county to suffer from its own negligence. Neither are the above extreme cases, but only those which are liable to happen any day.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Moody and Sawyer's revival in Brooklyn closed auspiciously on Friday night with a request for prayers for an editor, the only one in the country, it is believed, unconverted. Having found him they believed their work done, and went to Philadelphia on Saturday.

GEN. BRISTOW will demonstrate himself to be worth to the government more in dollars and cents than any other member of the Cabinet. He will do this by increasing the internal revenue about \$1,500,000 for the present month by straightening crooked whisky.

A GRAND RAPIDS husband remarked to his wife, Monday, that he had made up his mind to shoot himself, but when she kindly went and brought him the gun the ungrateful brute positively refused to use it. At least the Democrat says he did, and we really don't see why a Grand Rapids husband can't do anything that has been already done in other cities without having his originality called in question.

The English Church Missionary Society is quick to occupy a new missionary field. It could hardly have appropriated \$50,000 for a better object than the conversion of the African King Mtesa and his 300 wives, from whose capital Stanley or Wives' mother came with the news that nothing will tend more to make his life miserable than the advent of a few missionaries.

The corpse of the Catholic printer, Guibord, was at last buried in the cemetery of his church at Montreal on Tuesday. A military force of over 1,000 men was called out, the coffin was conveyed under an escort from the Protestant cemetery to its proper place in the Catholic cemetery, the grave was completely filled with cement, and a guard placed around it until it hardened. No opposition was shown excepting the sneers and rowdiness of a few roughs. The Roman priesthood had very wisely advised their people to keep quiet. There is great doubt whether the bishop can make the curse on this grave stick while he holds on to the money that he took for it as consecrated ground.

The public will remember that a man named Corbin started a saloon at Westerville, Ohio, after the crusade, and announced that he should keep it going in spite of the crusaders. Presently his saloon was mobbed, in the night, and the windows broken with stones. Then it was set on fire. Then it was blown up with gunpowder. He failed to convict the parties who committed these outrages, as the community seemed to sympathize with them. Then he was arrested and fined for alleged minor infractions of the laws, among other things for swearing. Still he stuck to it, though finally compelled to sell only lager beer. Then the village council passed an order that lager-beer shall not be sold in Westerville. He continued to sell, and was arrested, tried and fined. He appealed; and now the Court of Common Pleas has reversed the decision of the Mayor's Court, and decided that no village in Ohio can legally forbid the sale of beer within its limits, and assessed the heavy bill of costs upon the village; and Corbin will now sue for damages also. He has been preached against, prayed against, lectured against, mobbed, stoned, burned, blown up, prosecuted and fined, jailed, and threatened with all kinds of dire retributions; but he has pluckily held on, and at last won a legal decision which will set his prosecutors raving angry. There is one way by which his business can be legally, peacefully, and happily closed up. It is to create a sentiment such that nobody will drink beer. If he has no customers, he will shut up shop. But the truth is, there are those in and about Westerville who wish to buy as much as Corbin wishes to sell. The attempts to suppress Corbin are really attempts to forcibly prevent those who desire to buy from having a chance to buy. It is the seller who is mobbed, prosecuted, and sought to be driven off, while the drinkers are not molested; but if the drinkers are converted by the crusaders, the seller will have to close up for lack of custom. Being now defeated in their assault upon the seller, the crusaders will do well to turn their next attack upon the drinkers. Probably they will not do this, however.—Detroit Post.

In spite of statistics there is probably less drunkenness in the United States today than there has ever been before. There are certainly more who never touch liquor, and probably more who do not drink to excess, than at any previous time. Of what habits of this kind used to be, 50 or 60 years ago, we get some reminiscences from the Rev. Dr. Goodell, for a long time a missionary to the Persians, and who has given some interesting sketches of early New England. In his boy days "punch egg-nog, and a mixture of molasses and rum, called black-strap, flowed as freely through the sweet vales of New England as pure cold water does now." He particularly remembers "one good old man" who invited his father to talk with him about the millennium, and those "devoted missionaries who had taken their lives in their hands and gone to the desolate regions of Ohio to preach to those benighted people." At the end of their talk a mug of toddy or of dip was made, and the sugar in the bottom of the tumbler distributed to the children. In his father's absence young Goodell once made it so strong that the guest couldn't drink it all, and the children finished it, with the result of "laying them out." This was his first and last experience as a bar tender. In those days, he adds, "everybody drank, old and young, rich and poor, male and female, and our whole country seemed rapidly descending on the steep and slippery side of the hill toward ruin."

A TWELVE-YEAR-OLD girl in Berks County, Pennsylvania, rises every day at 4 o'clock, milks 13 cows, and prepares breakfast for the family; and the Pennsylvania papers brag of her. She isn't old enough yet to know better. But wait till she arrives at years of discretion, and then, if you catch her out of bed at 4 o'clock in the morning, or milking 13 cows before breakfast, then Pennsylvania will be entitled to claim the proud distinction of possessing the champion fool of her sex.

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